

Local Club Lends Helping Hand to Mexicali Neighbors

The Amistad Y Ayuda or "Friendship and Aid" Club began the new year with a pulk dinner at its January meeting at the home of its president, John E. Pinedo, Sr., 425 Calle de Castellana, Hollywood Riviera. Particularly honored at this meeting were club member Mario Ortiz and his bride Gloria, who celebrated a December wedding in Mexico City.

Glenn McEwen, treasurer, reported on the distribution of funds for the club's benevolent activities during the past Christmas season. These funds, which were raised, in part, by participation of members and friends in a "white elephant" sale at the club's November meeting, and a gala theatre party with the Hampton

Players in December, were allocated chiefly to two organizations which the members selected: the Mexican children's ward of the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital; and the Instituto "Fray Juan de San Miguel," in Los Reyes, Mexico.

Sr. Pinedo introduced the speakers of the evening, Dr. Robert K. Gustafson, of the staff of the Orthopaedic Hospital, and Mike Robinson, public relations representative for the hospital. Dr. Gustafson described the project which keeps the six beds of the Mexican children's ward filled; how Dr. Charles Le Roy Lowman, founder of the Orthopaedic Hospital in the early years of this century, on a trip across the border five years

ago saw the overwhelming number of children deformed, chiefly by polio or tuberculosis, carrying their deformities into hopeless adulthood for lack of corrective treatment.

Knowing that early treatment could straighten many of the club feet and twisted backs, he began bringing some of these children to the Orthopaedic Hospital. These efforts continued, and today this has become a mission affecting numerous destitute families which are a large part of the Mexicali area.

Every third week, Dr. Lowman, Dr. Gustafson, and other dedicated co-workers from the hospital, drive to

Calexico, and on to Mexicali where, during the week-end, they set up a clinic and work from 35 to 50 children who are waiting for help; treating them, fitting them with braces or other corrective appliances, visiting their often-makeshift homes, attempting to create better health conditions, always working toward eliminating polio and other health hazards. If an afflicted child appears curable, or even sufficiently mendable, he or she is brought to the Orthopaedic Hospital for whatever treatment is necessary.

Dr. Gustafson showed slides depicting some of the children they have worked with, and remarkable improvements made in many

of these formerly hopeless and helpless little ones, shaping them into normal, or at least self-sustaining young people. Six beds at the hospital may seem inadequate to treat so many cases, but they are sufficient as far as hospital care is concerned. Dr. Gustafson said that the great need is for temporary foster homes, where the children can be cared for during the few weeks or months of recuperation before being returned to Mexicali. Both Dr. Gustafson and Mr. Robinson emphasized that people in the Los Angeles area can perform a valuable service and at the same time gain much happiness from their temporary "adoption" of these bright, attractive chil-

dren. They also emphasized that donations of clothing for either children or adults, bedding, toys, a n y t h i n g usable, are needed, and that everything given to the hospital toward this project is taken to Mexicali on the week-end trips and distributed in person by the staff to families most in need.

The meeting continued with a report on the school for under-privileged boys in Los Reyes, made by Fred Brand, past president of the club, who, with his wife and two friends, arranged a December vacation trip in Mexico to include a stop-over at the school some fifty miles from Mexico City, in order to present to the Reverend Father Castro, on behalf of

the club, a check to cover a year's expenses for each of two boys "adopted" by the club.

During the current year, which will mark the fourth birthday of Club Amistad Y Ayuda (translated, "Friendship and Aid"), the club will emphasize aid in every possible way to the Orthopaedic Hospital's rehabilitation program in Mexicali. And friendship will continue to flourish in the club among the members, both Latin American and North American, who meet monthly to converse in English and Spanish and to exchange ideas of mutual interest. Sr. Pinedo will be glad to answer any questions about the club's activities.



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP

Pin-pointing spot on globe where they met are two Howard Wood Elementary teachers, Miss Monika Ferling, left, and Miss Harumi Inouye, right. The two teachers became acquainted at a school for Air Force dependent children just outside Tokyo, Japan. Miss Ferling, who came to this area from Germany in 1953, brought three teachers back with her when she returned to Torrance last fall.

East Meets West Here in Torrance

Four Local Teachers Practice 'Getting to Know You' Theory

A German-born Palos Verdes girl and Japanese-American girl from Seattle, who met on an air force base on the outskirts of Tokyo, Japan are renewing their international friendship in Torrance this year where they are both teaching at the same elementary school.

Miss Monika Ferling, who came to the United States in 1953 from Lake Constance in the southern part of Germany, recruited three teachers for the Torrance Unified School District during her year as a teacher of American air force children based in Japan.

In addition to interesting Miss Harumi Inouye, who is now on the Howard Wood School staff with her, in relocating here, she also brought back Miss Sharon Wilson, who is teaching at Casimir Elementary School, and Miss Darlene Stromme, who is on the Walteria School faculty.

A 1960 graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, Miss Ferling was born in East Prussia in an area which is now under Russian control. When her family arrived in this country 13 years ago, they settled in Palos Verdes and enrolled her in Chadwick School.

Following her graduation from college, she was hired by the Torrance Unified School District to teach at Wood School. Because she felt that the best way to teach children about the world in which they live was to know that world firsthand, she decided to spend her summers literally seeing the world.

After racking up her first year of teaching she went to Europe with a chartered

flight of University of California students and saw England, Holland, Austria, Switzerland and Italy.

The following summer she traveled to South America. There she visited Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Peru. By this time, she wanted to see the Orient. But she knew that she could only touch the surface of a culture during a brief summer sojourn. So she decided to spend a year living in Japan as a teacher of service children.

During that year, Sept. 1964 to June 1965, she got to know the Japanese people. On weekends and holidays she bicycled through the countryside, slept on mats on clean Japanese floors, and learned to speak the native tongue. Her companions on these excursions were Miss Inouye, Miss Wilson, and Miss Stromme.

While she was in Japan, the Olympics took place in that country. The four teachers met Fred Hanson, Mike Larabee and other American participants. One evening the teachers cooked dinner on the base for the Olympic stars.

Teaching on the base was similar to teaching in Torrance, Miss Ferling comments. "The major difference was lunch hour," she said. "Lunch hour lasted an hour and a half. The school bus took the children home to eat; and the teachers ate at the Officers Club."

Now that they can no longer spend their weekends exploring the Japanese countryside, how do Miss Ferling and Miss Inouye spend their spare time?

"We're taking a course on the Japanese culture," they explain.

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Under Women's Club Sponsorship

Hallmark Winners Listed

Winners of the Hallmark Art Contest, co-sponsored in Torrance by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club and the Torrance Woman's Club, were announced Saturday, Jan. 8, at a public showing in the Torrance Recreation Center. Theme of the contest was "Help Freedom Grow."

Sue Osterman, 5150 Carol Drive, Torrance, a senior from Bishop Montgomery High School, won the first prize a \$100 United States Savings Bond. Sue submitted a water color painting entitled "A World is Born Under Your Footsteps."

Connie Garcia, 1109 West 226th St., Torrance, was the winner of a \$25 United States Savings Bond for second place. Connie, also a senior at Bishop Montgomery, submitted a block print

entitled "For Mercy Has a Human Heart."

Third place winner was Mary Druliner, 1 Round Up Road, Rolling Hills. She submitted a block print entitled "The Wise Man Looks Into Space."

Fourth place winners were Pat Guffey, 1621 West 257th St., Harbor City, and Don Strand, 18709 Kornblum, Torrance. Pat submitted a chalk drawing entitled "Freedom Is Not a Resting Place," and Don entered a pencil drawing entitled "Every Time I See a New Born Baby Cry." The third and fourth place winners also attend Bishop Montgomery.

The Torrance Junior Woman's Club is affiliated with Marina District, California Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.



MRS. JAMES CROSSMAN (Photo by Seeman)

Nuptials Solemnized

Rev. William D. Appling officiated at the double-ring marriage ceremony at five o'clock at the Nativity Catholic Church on Dec. 30, when Miss Rebecca Ann Kadramas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gordon Kadramas, 22328 Denker Ave. exchanged her marriage promises with James Larry Crossman.

Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. James L. Crossman, 24612 Cypress Ave., Lomita.

On the arm of her father, the bride came to the altar wearing a traditional wedding gown of white brocade detailed with a full sweep train. A lace and pearl headpiece held her silk illusion veil and she carried a cascade of white roses and stephanotis.

Attending the bride were Miss Ramona Kadramas, maid of honor; Misses Kathy Gazeley, Kathy Flint and Bonnie Langdon, bridesmaids; and Sharon Sauberry, flower girl. They wore amethyst empire gowns and carried amethyst parasols filled with pink roses.

Bill Stuen stood as best man and ushers were Louis Middlestorg, Jack Chamberlin and Jimmy Fowler. Jack Fleck was ring bearer.

C. Roman, at the organ, played a background of nuptial music.

A champagne reception followed at the Jump 'n Jack restaurant. Sonja Kadramas registered the guests. Tony Kadramas and his orchestra furnished the music.

The newlyweds are now at home in Lomita. They are both graduates of Narbonne High School and both attended Harbor College.



ARTISTIC TALENTS RECOGNIZED

Local high school students, who entered the Hallmark Art Contest, sponsored by the two Torrance Women's Clubs, displayed their work for the public last Saturday. During the art exhibit, the works were judged and winners announced. Seated is Miss Suzan Osterman, 17, Bishop Montgomery senior who won first place, with Mrs. Douglas Hedde, fine arts chairman for the Junior Club and Mrs. Roy J. Apsley, representing the Senior Club, admiring the second place winning painting done by Connie Garcia, 17, also a Bishop Montgomery student. (Press-Herald Photo)

Valentines for Viet Nam

Dianas Make Plea for Gifts for Servicemen

Redondo Beach Diana Junior Women's Club will be sending items to the Marines and Army servicemen in Viet Nam in time for Valentine's Day.

Bags will be made up of shaving lotion, deodorant, soap, after shave lotion of which over \$300 worth was donated by a local cosmetic firm. Mrs. Bruce Wilkinson, Americanism chairman states that she needs tooth brushes, tooth paste, wash cloths or towlelettes, kleenex and any other type of small items for the bags. She could also use new underwear and heavy white socks.

These boxes will be packed by several Girl Scout troops which the Dianas sponsor.

Donations may be taken to Mrs. Wilkinson at 19509 Hinsdale, Torrance.

The Dianas are affiliated with the California Federation of Women's Clubs, Marina District.